



Glasgow
Children's
Hospital
Charity

**YOUR
IMPACT**

2024





YOUR IMPACT 2023-2024



The last year has seen an outpouring of support for the babies, children and young people supported by Glasgow

Children's Hospital Charity. As a result of this generosity, last year we invested more than £3million* in innovative equipment and services that will help children and families from across the country.

We believe that Glasgow belongs with the great children's hospitals of the world. This impact update exemplifies our ambition by shining a light on brand-new campaigns and projects that are the first of their kind in Scotland. Most importantly, these are embodied by the personal stories of the families, patients, and NHS staff we support, from cancer warrior Georgie to the visionary 'Sleepy Doctor', Aly Walker.

Thank you to each and every one of our donors, fundraisers and volunteers who have made this impact possible.

Kirsten Watson | CEO

*From our draft unaudited 2023-24 accounts



Georgie's Journey

15-year-old Georgie's world was turned upside down when the pain in her leg was found to be Ewing's sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer. She has now undergone several rounds of chemotherapy – but still found the strength to fundraise for the staff her family describes as 'truly wonderful'.

2



3

“You can have sympathy for people going through these circumstances, however, you really can’t understand the magnitude of the situation until you are living through it yourself.

“The support we have received from the children’s hospital has been exceptional and Georgie wanted to give back in any way she could, the first being shaving her hair.

“She talked me and her Mum into shaving ours along with her, and we all did so in the hospital on Hogmanay! We were delighted to be able to donate £10,000 to the Teenage Cancer Unit and Schiehallion wards.”

Paul, Georgie's Dad



**Scan to
watch
Georgie's
story**

A dream five years in the making

**BENEFITTING
10,000
CHILDREN
ANNUALLY**

In 2018, Paediatric Cardiac Anaesthetist, Dr. Alyson Walker, began a journey to transform the Theatres department at the children's hospital.

Five years later, the first phase of the Theatres Enhancement Project was unveiled, as Dr. Walker – known to patients as the 'Sleepy Doctor' – opened the facility with patients Riley and Scarlett.

It features a revamped reception area, patient-led mural designs, and the 'Wee Room,' a peaceful sanctuary for parents and carers in need of a quieter space.

"We wanted to transform our theatre environment into one filled with empathy so that children, their families, and indeed staff would feel calmer and more welcomed."

"I am deeply grateful for the support of Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity for making this vision a reality."

Patients Riley and Scarlett helped Dr Walker open the new facility.



Dr. Walker's Big Walk

Dr. Walker was so focused on her vision that she backed it up with her own fundraising. She walked from sunrise to sunset on the longest day of the year in 2023, covering over 40 miles in 17-and-a-half hours!



Siobhan's Legacy of Love



In memory of Scotland rugby international, Siobhan Cattigan, 'Siobhan's Legacy of Love' raises funds for young patients to receive hippotherapy, a treatment type which uses the sensory and motor stimulation of horse-riding.

Kind donations in Siobhan's memory have helped children like Sophia, Phoenix and Hope. The horses help them engage and stimulate muscles and body parts that they struggle to use, due to conditions such as Spina Bifida.

"We can't express enough how grateful we are for the funding for this treatment that wouldn't have been available for Sophia otherwise"

Sophia's Mum, Gemma

#RememberSiobhan



Precious memories, made thanks to you



In December 2022, Ketanthi met performers from the Scottish Ballet in the children's hospital amid her cancer treatment.

You may remember her from last year's Impact Update as the little ballerina in rainbow wellies. A year later, she came to the hospital to meet the dancers again – and tell them she's now cancer-free!



Thanks to Marion's Still Smiling, Ketanthi was also able to enjoy short breaks at places like the Waldorf Astoria Caledonia Hotel in Edinburgh – staying in the same suite as her favourite singer, Taylor Swift, and enjoying an afternoon tea.

"I'm eternally grateful to every single person who played their part in ensuring that she gets a chance to make her mark on this world."

Anushi, Ketanthi's Mum

A brighter future for children's healthcare worldwide



Hi Scotland is the innovation centre based at the Royal Hospital for Children and is funded by Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, working in partnership with NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and the West of Scotland Innovation Hub.

The centre matches world-class clinicians, patients and families in Glasgow with innovative partners to co-design new, sustainable models of care.

Led by visionary clinical director Dr Neil Patel, Hi will change the lives of children in Scotland and across the world.

Find out more at www.hiscot.org





'Our little hero'

"Aidan's favourite bedtime story starts with a little hero on an adventure, much like his own journey. It's a story filled with courage, love, and a special kind of magic that resides in the hearts of those brave enough to face great challenges."

Jessica and Matthew are proud parents to little Aidan, who lives with a rare condition called Kabuki Syndrome.



Their lives were turned upside down when Aidan went into heart failure at just three weeks old. Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity has been there every step of the way; from funding medical equipment, such as the new ventilators that helped stabilise Aidan in intensive care, to the recliner chairs in which Jessica and Matthew held their little boy when it was finally safe to do so.



Six weeks later, Aidan was discharged from hospital, but later would undergo another heart surgery and continues to receive care from many different departments for his rare condition.

"Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity stands as a beacon of hope for families in their toughest times. They provide not only vital medical equipment but also moments of joy, comfort, and strength."

From Tetris to Teddies

In 2023, we launched two brand-new campaigns, thanks to your support.



Teddy Hospital



Games for the Weans is a charity campaign for the gamers of Scotland.

It raised over £100,000 to create a bespoke gaming service in the children's hospital – supporting the mental health of patients and helping them to relax.

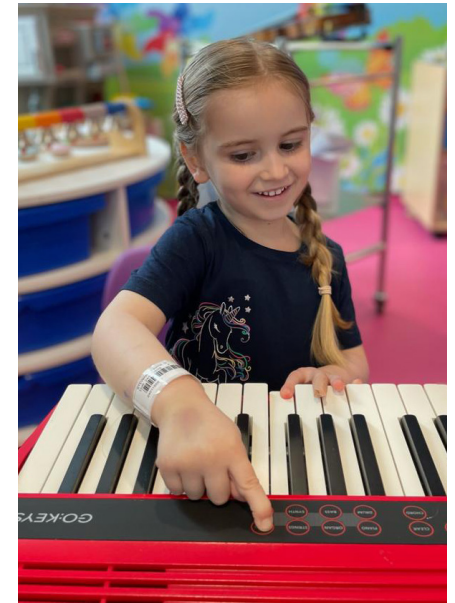
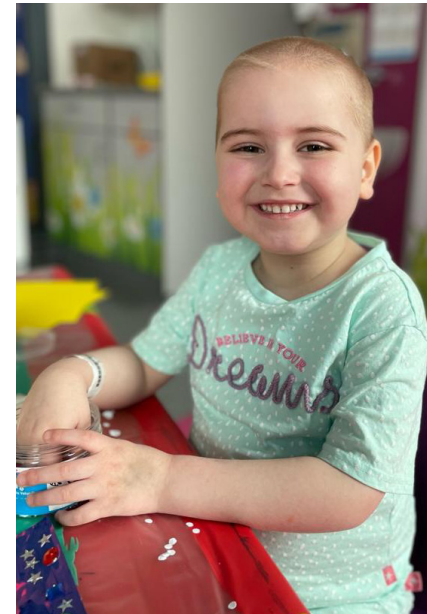
Funds raised will pay for new consoles, adapted gaming equipment, and a full-time Gamer-in-Residence at the children's hospital.



The Teddy Hospital experience educates children about their local hospital and visited over 300 schools and nurseries in its first year.

Over 14,000 children have now received a 'Tedical Degree' and learned all about the hospital. Many schools have said the Teddy Hospital experience had a positive impact on pupils who later visited the hospital as a patient.

Fundraising for Fearne



In Spring 2023, Paula's daughter Fearne was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Later that year, having seen how your donations supported play activities for her daughter on the Schiehallion cancer ward, Paula ran the Great Scottish Run for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity.

"I ran for Fearne and all of the other brave children who love to use thousands of gem stickers from the playroom craft cupboard, musical therapy teachers, superhero characters, trips to the cinema, playing games with the hospital Play Team and giggles with Tickle the balloon maker."

Paula



Warriors Plaster it Purple

Glasgow Warriors' 'Fighting for our Families' appeal took our partnership with the city's premier rugby club to new heights. We are incredibly grateful to everyone at the organisation who has worked so hard to fundraise for the babies and children in the hospital, just across the river from their Scotstoun home.

Full Backing

The annual Plaster it Purple match took the total raised by the appeal to over £40,000, with support from sponsors Leidos and the Warriors fanbase. The team was led out on matchday by hospital patient, Teddy.

Playing their Part

The Warriors squad continues to fundraise in their own ways, including donating match-worn shirts for a raffle, while the full team also visits the hospital at Christmas.

Community Power

Many local rugby clubs joined their sporting heroes and fundraised for the campaign, raising even more as a community.

Patient Power

We are in awe of the current and former patients of the children's hospital who go on to fundraise. Here are just some of their incredible stories...

In January 2021, brothers Carson and Calvin were seriously injured in a car accident and were treated by Dr. Michael Gillespie and Dr. Kathryn Bennett from the ScotSTAR team - Scottish Specialist Transport and Retrieval.

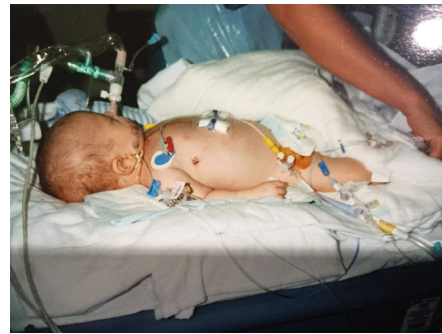
Carson, Calvin, Mum Sheree and Dad Andy fundraised for specialised child training

mannequins, which now help ScotSTAR's team prepare for the unique challenges of retrieving small children.

In September 2023, the brothers were reunited with the doctors who saved their lives and saw a demonstration of the mannequins they helped to fund!



16



Despite being born with a congenital heart defect and undergoing five open heart surgeries in childhood, 24-year-old Ben is now a half-marathon runner and has raised over £1,000 for the cardiology ward at the hospital.

“I always felt cared for and had a smile on my face in the children’s hospital. I took up running to fight stigmas surrounding heart conditions and exercise, and what better way to disprove those stigmas than long distance running!”

Ben

Young bike enthusiast Oliver cycled 100k in a month, to raise money for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity so that other children can benefit from the hospital's Play Programme like he did.

“We initially set a challenge of riding 50k, but he passed it so quickly that we decided to double it to 100k. Oliver managed to raise £400 over the course of the month.”

Courtney, Oliver's Mum



17

Volunteer Focus: Meet Molly



Molly (far left) and the Radio Therapy podcast team

At 15, Molly was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer. Six years later, Molly has no active cells, and dedicates her time to helping other children and young people in hospital.

Now a young ambassador for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, Molly has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds in support of the Schiehallion ward, and regularly speaks at fundraising events.

Molly also recently launched the Radio Therapy podcast with a group of friends, in which they share their lived experiences with cancer.

We are incredibly grateful to Molly and all of our volunteers who so generously give their time. **Thank you!**

18

Join our team

Last Christmas saw the shoppers of Glasgow donate an outstanding £113,000 across our three shopping centre partners: Silverburn, Buchanan Galleries and Braehead.



Scan the QR code to join our team of volunteers this Christmas.

This festive fundraising was the largest total ever received, and our thanks goes to all the wonderful volunteers who helped raise so much, as well as the centres themselves.



19



Glasgow belongs with the great children's hospitals of the world

Every day, the tireless NHS staff at the Royal Hospital for Children provide specialist care to more than 500 children. Nearly 1 in 4 of these children have travelled from other regions of Scotland to access expertise that is only available in Glasgow.

We believe that Scotland deserves a world-class children's hospital. With your donations and fundraising, this ambition can be our reality.

Annual visits to the Royal Hospital for Children



Glasgow	151,329
Lanarkshire	27,765
Central	5,945
Highlands and Islands	5,873
South West	4,753
South East	3,452
North East	762



Monthly Gift

Scan to support babies and children in Scotland's busiest children's hospital with a monthly gift.



**Glasgow
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Hospital
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